

N.P.S.
New-York, March 4, 1841.

My dear friend:

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I am grateful for your prompt attention to the request contained in my last letter, and for the kind, though too flattering terms in which you speak of my labors in the anti-slavery cause. My long and intimate acquaintance with you ~~has~~ I regard as one of the greatest blessings which I have ever received at the hands of God. You have been the instrument in his hands of making me a temperance man, an abolitionist, and a non-resistant; and I feel that I owe you a debt of gratitude which I can hardly express, much less repay. You will bear me witness, that I have never addressed you in the language of flattery; and you will acquit me now of any such design, when I tell you, that the more intimately I have known you, the stronger has been my confidence in your integrity, and the warmer my admiration of your character. The only regret I feel on looking back upon our long and intimate acquaintance is, that I have not learned to imitate more fully your example of piety, devotion and self-denial. I cherish for you an affection stronger than that which I feel for any other man, and I feel every blow which is aimed at you as if were aimed at my own heart. I trust that our acquaintance may continue to be of the same fraternal character while we live, and that we may be permitted to labor together for a long time to come, as we have done hitherto, for the advancement of truth and righteousness in this fallen world.

In spite of my strong desire to return to Boston, I confess there has been a sort of impression upon my mind from the first, that, owing to the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed, I should be called upon to remain. In relation to Rogers, I have never felt ~~that~~ quite satisfied in my own mind to recommend his removal. Mr. and Mrs. Child were my first choice as editors of the Standard, and my heart would leap at the announcement that they would consent to take the post, and thus leave me free to go home. That they will do so, I have not the slightest hope, since friend Gibbons proposed it to them a short time since, and received in return their positive refusal. To whom will the friends turn next? For their own sake no less than mine, I hope they will not suffer the matter to sleep until the annual meeting. Why should they do so? They surely cannot expect that that meeting will produce a man qualified for the place. They have every facility for hunting up an editor now that they will have then, for aught I can see; and I hope they will immediately look the whole matter in the face, and relieve me from suspense as soon as possible. If they will assure me, that some provision shall be made, which will enable me to return to Boston after the anniversary, it will put my mind to rest in the most satisfactory manner. However, I leave the whole matter in the hands of the friends, having thus stired up their minds to a remembrance of my ~~unpleasant~~ unpleasant position, being confident that they will do what is best for the cause.

James is about to prepare an official reply to the statement of the "foreign" Ex. Com.

and when we publish it, I intend to accompany it with the debate on Colver's rule changes, which it seems the Ab. Soc. has endorsed.

I have some ~~rather~~ expectation of going to Boston to the ministry Convention on the 20th, but cannot tell until I hear from wife, and know her conclusion about coming here.

My pamphlet sells quite as well as I expected - 100 having gone off at retail already. It is making "no small stir" among the Quaker aristocracy here. George F. White preached under ~~the~~ ^{its} inspiration ~~of~~ last Sunday, and "blew out" worse than ever - alluding to abolitionists as "reptiles" and "household vermin", in addition to his former epithets. He is certainly a very bad man.

Give my love to Helen and the household, and believe me, as ever,

Yours truly,
Oliver Johnson.

Wm Lloyd Garrison,
Boston.

